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## CLAIMS

1. Dispensing device for drinks or similar dosable liquid  
foodstuffs, in particular coffee, milk, soft drinks, soups,  
10 comprising:
- an identification means (10) to identify containers (1)  
that differ from one another but are all designed to  
receive the foodstuff for subsequent consumption from  
the container, and to send out an identification signal  
15 that specifies the particular container, as well as
  - a valve mechanism (20) that in response to the  
identification signal puts at least one of a plurality  
of supply means (30 to 32) for supplying a specific  
foodstuff or a mixture of specific foodstuffs in  
20 communication with a filling mechanism (25), so that the  
container (1) is filled with a prespecified amount of  
the prespecified foodstuff or the mixture of foodstuffs,
  - such that the identification means comprises sensors  
(12, 13) for detecting shape characteristics and/or  
25 measuring the weight of a container (1).
2. Dispensing device according to Claim 1,  
characterized in that the identification means (10)  
comprises a programmable memory (11) in which amount  
signals and/or choice signals corresponding to the various  
30 identification signals are stored, for specifying the  
foodstuffs.

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3.   Dispensing device according to one of the preceding claims,  
characterized in that the identification means (10)  
comprises reading means (14) to read information attached  
to the container (1).
- 5   4.   Dispensing device according to one of the preceding claims,  
characterized in that the identification means (10) is  
designed to send out a start signal, which releases the  
valve mechanism (20) for filling the container (1) when the  
10   container (1) is in a predetermined position with respect  
to the filling mechanism (25).
5.   Dispensing device according to one of the preceding claims,  
characterized by a manually actuatable start switch (17) to  
send out a start signal that causes a filling process to  
begin.
- 15   6.   Dispensing device according to one of the preceding claims,  
characterized in that the filling mechanism (25) is  
designed for simultaneously filling two containers (1, 1')  
with the foodstuff, that the identification means (10) is  
designed to send out position signals, and the filling  
20   mechanism (25) is controlled so that either one or two  
containers are filled, depending on how many are present.
7.   Dispensing device according to one of the preceding claims,  
characterized in that the identification means (10)  
comprises a filling-state sensor (15) by means of which it  
25   is possibly to specify a maximal filling state to which the  
container (1) is to be filled with the foodstuff.
8.   Dispensing device according to one of the preceding claims,  
characterized by a learning means (35) with a manually  
actuatable dispensing control for dispensing a foodstuff  
30   into a container (1) and storing in memory data on the

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amount and/or state of filling in dependence on an identification signal.

- 5 9. Dispensing device according to one of the preceding claims, characterized by a learning means (35) for entering specification data for a specific foodstuff in dependence on an identification signal.